THE TRAVANCORE REGISTRATION ACT (AMENDMENT) BILL.

MR. K. G. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI: Sir, I beg to move that the Travancore Registration Act (Amendment Bill) be read in the Assembly.

MR. A. LEKSHMINARAYANA AYYAR: I second it.

MR. K. G. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI: Sir, this Bill has been introduced to provide against the abuse that has grown round a section of the Registration Act. By Sec. 20 of the present Act, it is enacted that when a plot of property is to be registered, some portion of it must be situate within the jurisdiction of the sub-registrar who registers it. This section was subject of a full bench decision in the Travancore High Court reported in 7 T. L. J. It was decided there that when a property is being registered in a particular jurisdiction, if there was included a plot of land which was non-existent, then that document is void. But if some plot was included which was in existence though it did not belong to the person who was registering it or if some plot of land over which he had some interest, then the registration was valid. On this, very curious results followed. Everybody therefore for the sake of convenience resorted to this method of registration by including some plot like the cattle shed and things of that kind in the property belonging to another and this had been held to be legitimate and proper. The result is that when a certain gentleman applied for a loan to the Land Mortgage Bank, it was found that there were 59 encumbrances on his property though none of those documents was at all executed by him. This is what really happened in Travancore. Abuse has gone to such an extent. Therefore the proposal is to amend that section, so that you may register any document relating to the property in any jurisdiction provided you are prepared to pay a small fees.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: Sir, I rise to second the motion, and I do so in a spirit of doing one's duty to his own conscience and also in a spirit of vanity, because my friend the Legal Remembrancer referred to the 7 T. L. J. case. I appeared in that case and notwithstanding the very desperate efforts made to induce the learned Judges of the High Court in a full bench to follow 41 Calcutta case, a decision of the Privy Council reported in the decision of the eminent Judges, notwithstanding all my arguments....

PRESIDENT: The honourable member must not be guilty of contempt of court.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: Notwithstanding all my efforts, the learned Judges in their wisdom, decided the other way.

I fully sympathised with the Legal Remembrancer when he said that there were about 80 encumbrances on a poor tamarind tree. I know there is such a tree in Trivandrum which has allured the patronage of the document writers and appeared in a numerous documents on behalf of all these possible trees. I am glad that the Government have at last come to the rescue by preventing wrong action in the name of Registration.

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[Sadasyatilaka T. K. Velu Pillai.]

The Secretary to the Assembly then read the title of the Bill: "The Travancore Registration Act (Amendment) Bill.

MR. K. G. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI: Sir, I move that the Travancore Registration Act (Amendment) Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the following members :

Messrs. S. Chattanatha Karayalar.
D. Francis.
K. G. Govindan.
T. C. Kesava Pillai.
K. P. Kochukora Tharakan.
K. Kunju Panickar.
K. R. Narayanan.
P. Vivekanandam.
G. Velu Pillai.
V. Chandamiah, and
Sry. Devaki Antharjanam.

MR. A. LAKSHMINARAYANA AYYAR : I second it.

The motion was accepted by the House.

THE TRAVANCORE PUBLIC HEALTH BILL.

MR. K. G. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI: Sir, I beg to move that the Travancore Public Health Bill be continued. Sir, after the Bill was referred to the Select Committee, two sessions have passed and the Select Committee have not been able to consider the Bill and send up a report. Unless the House authorises for the continuance of the Bill the same Committee cannot function. Hence my motion.

The motion was put to vote and carried.

MOTION RE. PUBLIC SERVICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

MR. S. N. URE (*Public Service Commissioner*): Sir, I move that the question whether any proportion of the members of the Public Service Advisory Committee should be thrown open for election by the Legislature be taken into consideration.

Sir, this committee was formed following on a resolution by this House that there shall be an Advisory Committee consisting of not more than 7 non official members consisting of one Nair, one Ezhava, one Backward Hindu, one Catholic Christian, one non-Catholic Christian, one Muslim and one lady, to advise the Commissioner. In their order, Government accepted this provision, but there was no specific mention of any communal membership. However the nominations that Government made, were strictly in accordance with the resolution of the House. The term of the committee expired three months ago. So, I now move whether any proportion of the members of the Committee should be thrown open for election by the Legislature.

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